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23 September 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 23 September 1965

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[redacted] of ORR gave a background briefing on the Soviet economy. The DDI noted that Gardner Ackley, the President's Economic Advisor, would be making a public address on the Soviet economy some time soon.

DDI noted that General Carroll would be making a trip to various [redacted] points in Europe next month. He will attend a Defense Attaché meeting [redacted]

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DDI tabled a joint CIA-DIA study on the effects of U.S. air strikes against North Vietnam. The study was completed on 15 September and was given to JCS and SecDef. The latter's recent questions were satisfied by the report. A continuing series of these joint studies will be published.

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There was a discussion of problems involved in getting communication priorities for [redacted] particularly in times of crisis. Executive Director noted that this was an old problem and a difficult one to negotiate with the military.

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As regards yesterday's Washington Post story about "disappearance" of the North Vietnamese 325th Division from SVN, R. Jack Smith explained that there is no evidence that this Division has left SVN.

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Smith pointed out that the cease-fire is in effect [redacted] that the situation remains unsettled. [redacted] appears to be in trouble. DDP noted that he has asked for a study of possible successors [redacted] in the event of a coup, particularly looking to successor possibilities among the military. DDCI noted that in President Johnson's telephone call [redacted] yesterday, [redacted] invited to visit the President in Washington soon.

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Kent reported that NIE 11-8 will be before USIB next week, and that copies of the text will be available tomorrow.

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Houston reported that the Agency memo on [redacted] is 25X1 receiving favorable reaction on the Hill. DCI observed that he had asked DDP to prepare a companion piece setting forth damage done by [redacted] 25X1 [redacted]. This companion piece is to be given to the same recipients.

Bross reported on a meeting with General Carroll and other top DIA officers to discuss approaches to the job of jointly surveying and assessing U.S. PI facilities. A joint determination will be made of which U.S. facilities are to be considered national as compared with those that are departmental. A letter for DCI to send to BOB outlining the status of this project will be prepared in the next several days.

DDS&T reported that CORONA was launched yesterday on time. There was some difficulty. The orbit is lower than expected. Programming needs some rejuggling. 25X1

DDS&T reported that Carl Duckett had met with Hyland yesterday with the DCI's letter responding to certain concerns raised by the Hyland Panel. Hyland was pleased with this. Hyland also agreed that the Panel henceforth will submit a written report of its findings. 25X1

At DCI inquiry, DDP explained the current status of efforts to plan and establish a special [redacted] 25X1 A plan will be submitted to the country team today for comment.

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Executive Director noted the Consolidated Fund Drive taking place between 15 September and 15 October. He particularly urged efforts to support contributions to the Educational Aid Fund.

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DDCI announced assignment of [redacted] to a liaison post in Secretary McNamara's office. DDCI will introduce [redacted] to McNamara and Vance at 11:00 this morning.

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ACTIONS

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1. DCI asked that formal arrangements be made to employ [redacted] a consultant. (DDI - 1 October 1965)

2. Concerning the SNIE on Vietnam passed by USIB yesterday and containing a State Department dissent with the entire Estimate, DCI asked Sherman Kent to undertake a study of the Department's record in estimating on Vietnam developments. If the record shows State's batting average to be low, DCI intends to write to SecDef and tell him so. (DDI -- 27 September)

L. K. White

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